



## **Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Public Library**

**P.O. Box 188 Okemah, OK 74859**

**918/560/6198 or 866/988/8696 (Fax) 918/623/3023**

Dear Sir/Madame,

Would you please consider granting an extension/waiver of the E-Rate form 471 deadline date of 3-26-14.

We are a Tribal Library, recently certified by the Oklahoma Department of Public Libraries. Funding year 2014 was the first year that the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Public Library requested E-Rate Funding. Unfortunately Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Public Library was not aware of the USAC SLD's E-Rate program or its deadlines. We attempted to complete a form 471 filing but learned that the window had closed. We have since learned that consultants are available to help with filing, for a fee, but our program is not able to pay a consultant at this time. We now have an employee dedicated to becoming proficient with the program and with filing the various forms by their respective deadlines.

Your waiver approval will allow the Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Public Library to obtain E-Rate funds for funding year 2014 and realize its goal of promoting the general welfare needs of those members of the Tribe, the community and provide the following additional services in our rural region: The availability of a variety of books for all ages. Some topics: Native American content, Children's literature, Fiction, Non-Fiction, Health, Science, and many others. We have Resource manuals for the ACT-2008 Edition, The G.E.D. for Dummies, and Hooked on Phonics. The library currently has two (2) computers.

Receiving E-rate funding for access to the Internet is critical to our efforts to serve our community and Tribal members. We allow public WIFI use which aids many Tribal and Non-Tribal members who can't afford or who have few if any affordable internet options in the rural areas in which they live. During the summer months, the library offers a Summer Reading program for children ages 4-12 and access to the internet is an important part of the program. This provides the children with additional educational opportunities such as viewing content on You-Tube for Education and other education oriented web-sites during the summer months.

The Thlopthlocco Tribes goal is to promote the general welfare needs of those members of the membership community in broad areas such as economics, private living and operations, mind, body, and general wellness, cultural and social interaction at all levels of diversification. Continued existence

of the Library is a critical component in our plans to accomplish our goals and receiving E-Rate funds is critical to the continued existence of the library.

Thanks for your assistance with this.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Taylor  
Director  
Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Public Library